

speaking volumes about the great burden this natural disaster has placed on the people of at least eleven nations. During this difficult period, I know that all Americans stand in support of the nations and people affected by this unfortunate series of events, and stand united in our determination to assist these people in rebuilding their shattered lives. President Bush has pledged the support of the United States government, and our federal agencies and military personnel are doing everything possible to be of the utmost assistance, and fulfill that pledge. Likewise the American people are responding with overwhelming charity and generosity.

Indeed, this horrible catastrophe has created a virtual global army of compassion, and I rise today to recognize and applaud the leadership and generosity of a small portion of that army, namely the country of Equatorial Guinea, for their generous donation of \$200,000 toward the Tsunami Relief Efforts.

The government of Equatorial Guinea has faced many challenges in restoring order to a country that has been ravaged and neglected for decades. While the country still faces many struggles, such as rebuilding the country's schools, hospitals and infrastructure, Equatorial Guinea is the first African country to make a financial donation to the Tsunami relief effort.

I am pleased to see President Teodoro Obiang Nguema's humanitarian spirit which has served the people of Equatorial Guinea so well, has spilled over to aid the many thousands in need in Southeastern Asia. I fervently hope that Equatorial Guinea's neighboring countries will soon follow the example set by President Nguema and offer any assistance possible to those who have been affected so greatly by this tragedy.

HONORING MR. EDWARD FAUTH, JR.

**HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2005*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Edward Fauth, Jr., of Corfu, New York, for his fifty years of active service as a volunteer firefighter.

For the past fifty years, Edward Fauth, Jr., has served the Corfu community as a member of the Corfu Rescue Hook & Ladder Company. During that time with the company, he has played a vital role in community safety, holding a number of different positions including Chief, Assistant Chief, Second Assistant Chief, Trustee and Vice President.

Anytime a citizen volunteers his or her time for the betterment of the community, it is commendable. For one man to have given fifty years as a volunteer firefighter is nothing short of remarkable. His commitment to his fellow citizens and dedication to his community truly exemplify the ideals of public service. Through his dedication, Edward has made a considerable and lasting contribution to our community, and for that he deserves our deepest gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in honoring Mr. Edward Fauth, Jr., of Corfu, New York, and thank him for his fifty

years of active service as a volunteer firefighter.

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN  
SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2005*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, "Just wait, there may be some fireworks." These words were spoken by Ms. Shirley Chisholm after she was elected the first black woman to serve in Congress. And, Mr. Speaker, there were fireworks.

As a founding member, Shirley Chisholm made the Congressional Black Caucus the "Conscience of the Congress." Throughout her career, she was an advocate for the unemployed, for low-wage workers, for women, children, and people of color. The daughter of a laborer and a domestic worker, Shirley Chisholm won awards for her debating skills at Brooklyn College and went on to receive her masters in education at Columbia University. When she came to the House in 1968, she became a teacher to us all.

And Mr. Speaker, there were fireworks. Shirley Chisholm carried the double burden of being black and being a woman. She was no stranger to resistance, but when Shirley wanted something done for her constituency or for her country, nothing could stand in her way. She called herself "unbossed and unbought," and she was. From the moment she entered the Congress, she worked to make it a more fair and equal body. She said, "Our representative democracy is not working, because the Congress that is supposed to represent the voters does not respond to their needs. I believe the chief reason for this is that it is ruled by a small group of old men." Shirley did not rest until she got the committee assignments she wanted and the respect she deserved. Mr. Speaker, there were fireworks.

Shirley Chisholm made history, twice: as the first black woman in Congress, and then as the first African American to run for President in 1972. She said, "I am an historical person at this point, and I'm very much aware of it." When asked of her legacy, Shirley said, "I'd like them to say that Shirley Chisholm had guts." Mr. Speaker, we will say that and we will say more. Shirley Chisholm had spunk and spitfire, she had commitment and courage, she had wit and wisdom—she was an inspiration to us all.

As we move forward into this new Congress, let us learn from our great teacher Shirley Chisholm. Let us remember her courage to be independent, to speak her mind, and to fight for the under-represented in this country. Let us remember that she cared not what the Congress was, but what it could and should be. Let us remember her sense of historical purpose and find our own. Mr. Speaker, in the name of justice, equality, and fairness—in the memory of Shirley Chisholm—let there be fireworks.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE  
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE  
HONORABLE ROBERT T. MATSUI,  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM  
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 4, 2005*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember my colleague and friend, BOB MATSUI. Both California and America have lost a respected leader and more importantly, a good man who was committed to his constituents, his family and his nation.

BOB was a dedicated public servant who worked tirelessly on the behalf of his constituents. He always fought for America's children, to create economic justice, and to protect Social Security. His work, accomplishments, and life are an inspiration to all Americans.

I have been honored to serve with and know BOB. Even in a partisan and closely divided Congress, BOB always brought civility and intellect to policy debates. He was an example for all who seek to advance the best public policy.

I know that his colleagues and his constituents will not soon forget BOB—his untimely passing leaves an emptiness in everyone who knew and loved him.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join with me in sending our sincerest condolences to his family. I hope that his wife, Doris, and his family can find peace in this difficult time.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE  
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE  
HONORABLE ROBERT T. MATSUI,  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM  
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 4, 2005*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and the contributions of my good friend and colleague, the Congressman from California, BOB MATSUI, who passed away last Saturday.

During his 26 years of service here in Congress, Mr. MATSUI was a great leader in the House of Representatives, introducing legislation on issues such as welfare reform, health care, tax issues and the environment. His thorough knowledge of the Social Security system made him a strong advocate against proposed reforms that would negatively impact America's elderly population.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for many of my colleagues when I say I will miss the Congressman from California deeply. When I started here over 16 years ago, Mr. MATSUI was already well established, and I was one of the many beneficiaries of his knowledge and experience.

In many ways Mr. MATSUI brings to mind the late Martin Luther King. In the same way that the Reverend King was able to rise above the challenges facing him in his fight for civil rights for African-Americans, Mr. MATSUI, who began